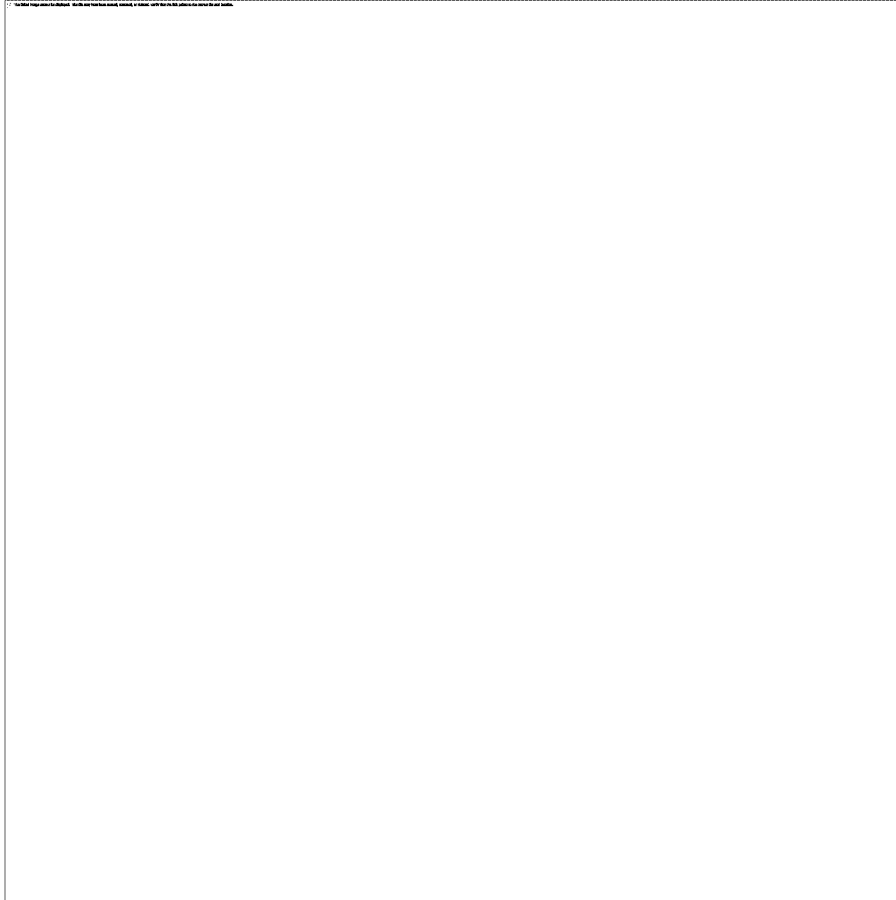


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**NEWS UPDATE**

**March 3, 2021**

***Top Story***

**SDFU President Calls for Repeal & Replace of Fuel Economy Rule to Include Octane and Higher Ethanol Blends**

By Karla Hofhenke, South Dakota Farmers Union • • Posted March 2, 2021

Speaking at the National Farmers Union National Convention, South Dakota Chapter President Doug Sombke said ethanol advocates need to prioritize support for a high octane standard in the new fuel economy rule that could triple demand for ethanol over the next decade. Sombke and NFU are spearheading a "Repeal & Replace" campaign along with ethanol producers and other organizations to ensure the announced revision of the previous Administration's Safe Affordable Fuel Efficiency (SAFE) rule increases the minimum octane standard in U.S. gasoline and recognizes the significant carbon sequestration benefits of corn ethanol. [ read more ... ]

## **Agriculture Secretary Sees 'Early Wins' on Climate From Farms**

By Mike Dorning, Bloomberg • • Posted March 2, 2021

U.S. Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack predicted farms would provide "early wins" for the Biden administration's efforts to counter climate change, and hinted he will draw on the department's borrowing authority to fund initiatives to reduce greenhouse-gas emissions. He told the National Farmers Union Monday that he believes USDA has "some flexibility" to draw resources for climate change initiatives from the Commodity Credit Corporation, a New Deal-era entity with borrowing authority that President Donald Trump tapped to fund his \$28 billion trade bailout. [ read more ... ]

## **Biden's trade rep pick says she will fight Chinese trade barriers, including censorship**

By Andrea Shalal and David Lawder, Reuters • • Posted March 2, 2021

President Joe Biden's U.S. trade representative nominee, Katherine Tai, said on Monday she would work to fight a range of "unfair" Chinese trade and economic practices and would seek to treat Chinese censorship as a trade barrier. In written answers to senators' questions following her confirmation hearing last week, Tai said she would seek to use the enforcement consultation process in former President Donald Trump's "Phase 1" trade deal with China to ensure the protection of American intellectual property. [ read more ... ]

### **Legislation**

## **RFA Praises Biofuel Provisions in Climate Bill**

By Chris Clayton, DTN Ag Policy Editor • • Posted March 3, 2021

There are provisions in the bill that would provide more transparency and set tighter deadlines for small oil refiners seeking exemptions to the Renewable Fuels Standard. The bill also would require EPA to make quicker decisions when approving renewable fuels that lower greenhouse gas emissions. Democrats on the House Energy and Commerce Committee introduced the Climate Leadership and Environmental Action for our Nation's (CLEAN) Future Act. The bill's goal would be to reduce greenhouse gas emissions 50% from 2005 levels by 2030. Moving ahead, the bill would seek to achieve net-zero emissions from the economy by 2050. [ read more ... ]

## **Stabenow introduces energy tax credit bill**

By Nicole Heslip, Brownfield • • Posted March 2, 2021

"If it's biofuels, if it's ethanol, if it meets the clean energy provisions in terms of jobs and investments, it's certainly something that could qualify," she says. The American Jobs in Energy Manufacturing Act, co-sponsored by Democratic Senator Joe Manchin of West Virginia, would allocate \$8 billion for a 30 percent tax credit to manufacturers that retool, expand or build new facilities for parts and technologies needed to reduce carbon emissions. [ read more ... ]

### **Carbon Capture**

## **Carbon Capture Coalition releases policy blueprint**

By Erin Voegelé, Ethanol Producer Magazine • • Posted March 2, 2021

The Carbon Capture Coalition on Feb. 24 released a national policy blueprint that includes near-term recommendations the group says policymakers should adopt in order to accelerate the deployment and commercialization of carbon capture projects. The blueprint represents a consensus

of the CCC's more than 80 energy, industrial and technology companies, labor unions, and conservation, environmental, and clean energy organizations. Those groups include coalition participants Air Liquide, Alto Ingredients, Archer Daniels Midland Co., LanzaTech, National Farmers Union, NRG Energy, Summit Agricultural Group, White Energy, along with coalition observers Algae Biomass Organization, Biomass Power Association, Growth Energy, and Renewable Fuels Association. [ [read more ...](#) ]

## **EVs**

### **Volvo says it will stop selling gasoline-powered cars by 2030.**

By Jack Ewing, New York Times • • Posted March 2, 2021

Volvo Cars said it would convert its entire lineup to battery power by 2030, phasing out internal combustion engine vehicles faster than other automakers like General Motors. Volvo, based in Sweden and owned by Geely Holding of China, has been ahead of larger rivals in converting to electric power. In 2019, all the models it sold were either hybrids or ran solely on batteries. [ [read more ...](#) ]

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